



## Calls For National Steel Plan

### Christmas Message

From M. J. Coldwell  
C.C.F. National Leader

CHRISTMAS greetings and best wishes to all the members and supporters of the C.C.F. This is the time of year when our attention is turned to the warm-hearted family celebrations and ceremonies which provide a needed respite from the toils and tribulations of difficult days.



M. J. Coldwell, M.P.

It is good that we should relax, a bit and neglect the conflicts and struggles of everyday life. The Christmas season is an appropriate time to give expression to our desire for peace and security and to ponder the methods by which these objectives may be reached. Never were such ponderings more necessary than now when the clouds of totalitarianism, ill-will and war threaten the security and peace of all the world.

In recent months democratic socialists in many lands have exhibited a desire to get back to first principles and to clarify the ideas and ideals which have been built on the concepts of co-operation and brotherhood. It would not be amiss to remind ourselves at this time that the Man whose birth is now celebrated universally, not only taught the principle of brotherhood, but in keeping with His ideal lived a life of complete service to His brethren. One reason for His effectiveness was His clarity of mind and singleness of purpose. He knew what things came first in His philosophy and He did not permit the irrelevant notions of the scribes and pharisees to distract His attention from the all-important goals.

Perhaps in the midst of this holiday season we can take time to ponder some of the more serious questions affecting the future of democratic socialism. The future of our movement depends upon our unity of purpose and our understanding as individual members. In the words of J. S. Woodsworth: "Every socialist should have a reason for the faith that is in him." We can immeasurably strengthen our own cause by promoting within ourselves the clarity of thought and singleness of purpose which will permit us to launch on a new period of advance.

Christ rebuked the scribes and pharisees for adhering to the forms of religion and neglecting the spirit. We must be careful to avoid confusing the techniques of socialism with the basic purposes for which we strive. We seek above all else the welfare of man; concentration on the methods of securing this end should not be allowed to result in confusing short-term objectives, which are really methods, with our long-term aims.

These are the thoughts I should like to leave with you during the Christmas season, 1950. May 1951 see the establishment of Peace on earth, goodwill among all men.

### N.Z. Ex-Premier Dies



HON. PETER FRASER, former Prime Minister of New Zealand, passed away in Wellington, N.Z., at the age of 66, after suffering from bronchitis and a bad heart. Fraser led New Zealand's former Labor government through the crucial war years of 1940 to 1949.

### NEW F.U.A. HEAD



HENRY G. YOUNG, of Millet, long prominent in the farm movement of Alberta, was elected to succeed Carl J. Stimpié, as president of the Farmers' Union of Alberta at the annual convention in Calgary this month.

### Federal-Provincial Affairs

## Little Accomplished At The Ottawa Conference

### Costs to Rise

### RENEWED DEMAND FOR CURBS URGED

OTTAWA (CPA)—The expansion of defence expenditures, made necessary by the growing international crisis, makes it certain that prices will rise drastically unless the government is willing to take effective action," the C.C.F. National Executive warns with a statement issued to the Press. The C.C.F., which has been conducting a vigorous campaign for government action to curb rising prices, calls upon Canadian citizens to "renew their efforts to compel the government to abandon its disastrous doing-nothing policy."

The statement continued:  
Farm-Labor Demand  
"We welcome the clear-cut de-  
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## Scores Short-Sighted Policy Of Corporations

Warning against the short-sighted policy of the Canadian Steel Corporation whose product is vitally important both for defence and for construction, C. H. Millard, National Director for Canada of the United Steelworkers of America, has proposed a five-point plan to meet Canada's growing steel problem.

In submitting the plan for expansion of the Canadian steel industry, to M. A. Hoey, recently appointed Steel Controller for Canada by the federal cabinet, Mr. Millard points out that it is only a few years ago that Canadian steel plants were dismantled, sold and shipped to the United States. "While we are short of steel now," said the Steelworkers' Director, "a year ago hundreds of workers in such steel centres as Hamilton and Cape Breton Island

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### REJECT APPEAL ON FREIGHT RATE RISE

OTTAWA (CPA)—The railways have won again. The Federal Cabinet made public on November 30 an order-in-council rejecting the appeal of seven provincial governments against the 20 per cent increase in railway freight rates which went into full effect last June.

This was the second appeal against increased freight rates made by the provinces—and lost—since the war.



C. H. MILLARD

### SOCIAL CREDIT OUT OF QUEBEC POLITICS

MONTREAL (CPA)—The Social Credit Party's Quebec section, known as L'Union des Electeurs (Union of Electors), has announced that it is calling it a day as far as elections are concerned. They ran a total of 92 candidates in the Quebec provincial election of 1948, and have tried for the Federal House since 1944, in both cases without a single vic-

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## LABOR CAMPAIGN ON PRICE CONTROL

OTTAWA (CPA)—The four major Canadian labor organizations have announced the launching of a joint campaign on a nationwide basis for price controls, and the retention of rent controls. Thus at one stroke, the organized labor movements on the economic front have pitched into the battle which has begun many months ago by the C.C.F.

The organized farm movements are already on record urging price control, so that this labor move now lines up the C.C.F., and workers' and farmers' movements on the side of constructive action on high prices.

C.C.F. Members of Parliament led off in the battle for control of prices when the regular session of Parliament sat early in the year; they continued their fight in the special session of the House of Commons last September; and everywhere in the country the C.C.F. organization has campaigned for action against inflation. Now comes a decision of the four major labour bodies, announced on December 7, that labor has taken up the battle in deadly earnest.

A joint conference of heads of the Canadian Congress of Labour, the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labour, and the Railway Transportation Brotherhoods led to agreement on a joint campaign.



### PERSONAL STUFF

BY  
E. E. R.

In all the 1950 years of the Christian era no Christmas season has ever seen a more depressing pall of uncertain gloom hang over the world. I wish I could go along with those who can still be optimistic in the face of the situation now existing in international relations. But the evidence of impending catastrophe is too hideously plain to be wished aside. The ideal of "One World" has been smothered in the deep-shadowed folds of suspicion and ill-will. The dream of a "parliament of man, a federation of the world" was punctured before the delegates had turned their backs on San Francisco's Golden Gate in 1945. The United Nations is still the world's only desperate hope, but it has been made a rostrum from which have been shouted the bitterest words in all the long his-

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## URGE NEGOTIATION WITH THE CHINESE

OTTAWA (CPA)—"That every avenue should be explored, short of appeasement, for a negotiated peace with China," was the view put forward by the C.C.F. National Executive following a meeting last weekend. "The aim of this settlement," said the C.C.F. in a statement released following the meeting, "should be the establishment of a free and United Korea, and the eventual seating of the Chinese People's Republic in the United Nations."

It was emphasized also that "no single nation, acting unilaterally, should under any circumstances decide on the use of the atomic bomb."

Support Collective Action  
The C.C.F., in the present international crisis, reaffirmed its "full support for the collective action taken by the United Nations to halt aggression" and condemned the intervention of the Chinese forces against United Nations policy.

"It is, however, vital now as it  
(Continued on page 8)

# Peace On Earth - A Hoax or a Hope?

T. C. DOUGLAS

PREMIER OF SASKATCHEWAN

AT THIS particular time in world history the cry of "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men" seems to have a very hollow ring indeed. On several fronts men are locked in mortal combat and these are only the exterior indications of a volcano that rumbles menacingly beneath the surface. To many the Third World War has already begun and even the most optimistic feel that we are but a step away from it.



In this atmosphere of gloom and strife it is not easy to speak of "Peace on Earth." It is a good thing to remember, however, that the first Christmas message was not an appraisal but a prophecy; it was not a statement of things as they were, but of things as they ought to be. The tidings of "Peace on earth and goodwill toward men" came to a world in which there was neither

peace nor good will. War and oppression hung over the world of that day like a shroud and the Babe of Bethlehem was to know little but sorrow from the Manger to the Cross.

It Takes Vision  
Anyone can see the sun at noonday; it takes vision to see it in the blackness of the night and to wait for its coming. In every generation there have been those, who in spite of the clouds that gather ominously about them, still believe in the dawning of a new day. Amid the clash and clamor of strife there have always been a few who were able to hear the message of "Peace on Earth" among men of good will. To them it came, not in hollow mockery, but as a challenge to rise above despair and build a world of social justice and human brotherhood.

Even In Times of Despair  
Someone has said that it is only when the skies are black that you can see the stars. Certainly it is true that the hope of world peace and human betterment have always shone most brightly when the firmament was dark. The

beauty of the Christmas message is that it has come to mankind even in times of despair and inspired us with a great hope—that some day men will beat their swords into ploughshares and learn the art of war no more.

May this Christmas bring to you the message of hope and the vision of a "new world" rising to birth. Let us not be despondent because the skies are heavy but rather, let us rejoice that a light still shins in the darkness and that the vision of a nobler world still dwells in many a heart.

It is in this spirit that I wish you all a Merry Christmas and trust that you will dedicate yourself once more to bringing about that day when there shall be a "Peace on earth among men of good will."

## IN THERE PITCHING ON RUSH ORDERS

LONDON, Eng.—One recent Tuesday morning a U.K. firm received an urgent cable for special rugby jerseys needed for a game in Montreal the following Saturday. By 3 o'clock the same day the jerseys had been specially made up, and shipped by fast-air freight to London. They were then transhipped to Montreal by B.O.A.C. in ample time for the game.



SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER

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## Scores Short-

(Continued from page 1)  
were looking for work." Mr. Millard's plan calls for:

- (1) The immediate establishment of a tripartite steel council representative of the corporations, the government and labor, to direct the general development of the Canadian steel industry.
- (2) The expansion of Canadian steel making capacity by at least one million tons a year including, if necessary, the public development of new steel making plants.
- (3) Full enquiry into the possibility of new steel plants at the Head of the Great Lakes; the province of Quebec; and the West Coast to take advantage of iron ore resources readily available at each site.
- (4) A price stabilization program to end inflationary trends.
- (5) The development of "over-all" collective bargaining policies which would ensure uninterrupted production of steel.

### Asking Signs, 1940

In a review of the situation leading up to the proposal, Mr. Millard states that "since 1940 we have been asking the appropriate government authorities to establish a Canadian steel industry council." The late Prime Minister, Mr. MacKenzie King, indicated his interest in the proposal but apparently was unable to persuade his cabinet colleagues. The plan of Dr. J. Carl Goldenberg, Labor Advisor to the Department of Reconstruction, for such a conference fell through.

### Public's Right to Know

In his letter Mr. Millard states "Steel capacity is not a matter to be decided by management alone. Millions of dollars of public funds have been paid out over the years to the major steel producing companies and the public has a right to know whether their investment has been wisely handled. The workers in the industry are also vitally concerned. While we are short of steel now, a year ago hundreds of workers in such steel centres as Hamilton and Cape Breton Island were looking

for work."

"It is only a few years ago that the steel mill at the Algoma Steel Corporation was dismantled and sold to American concern. We protested at the time, but were told it was a matter of private company policy. In 1947 we asked for the re-opening of the government-owned plate mill on the property of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation at Sydney, N.S. but the appeal fell on deaf ears. The machinery was dismantled, sold and shipped to the United States. On another occasion we questioned the diversion of coke from the steel industry, which resulted in blast furnace shutdowns."

The union leader states that the "existence of a steel council" could consider the implications of such actions in the light of the total national need for steel. We believe today's steel problem might have been avoided or at least lessened, if we had had an industry council with some responsibility for planning and directing the development of the industry."

### Playing It Safe

"Canadian Steel Corporations, like their counterparts in other nations, have always tended to view large-scale expansion with suspicion," Mr. Millard claimed. "The policy of 'playing it safe' by keeping capacity less than demand has dominated their thinking. Our steel production cannot maintain full employment in the secondary industries without imports just because of the capacity restriction policy," Mr. Millard pointed to the reluctance of the steel corporations to respond to the 1948 government proposal that capacity be increased of a 50-50 distribution of new capital costs between the government and the corporations.

### Goos to American Mills

The question posed by American development of our iron ore resources in Canada was also raised by Mr. Millard. "The present opening up of the Quebec-Labrador field seems likely to result in a new steel industry in the New England states, while our

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## NOT YET

The impact of events on the Korean war front and the diplomatic front at Lake Success has driven most people to the conclusion that the world is about to be plunged into another global conflict.



Yet, in spite of all that, Lloyds of London, Eng., the greatest casualty insurance organization in the world, was quoting 50 to 1 odds against the prospect of a world war. It sounded incredible to the average listener or news reader which makes it worthwhile to examine closely the facts that determine conditions for peace or war.

Such examination reveals that the conditions for prolonged armistice by far exceed conditions that lead to global war. The will to avoid war is much stronger than one would glean from the headlines of newspapers. No sooner had President Truman threatened the use of atomic weapons on the Korean front when Prime Minister Attlee took off to Washington as European emissary to warn Mr. Truman against such action. It was prompt action to prevent grave consequences. While it is understandable how Americans feel about their grave defeats in the snow-cold hills of Korea, Europe made it clear to them that these reverses do not justify a global conflict.

Europe is not prepared for war either physically or morally. She is still licking the wounds of World War Two. She is outnumbered by the Soviet Union's military forces 10 to 1. And Europe is hopelessly divided. Her capitalist economy has failed to raise the standard of life of the masses sufficiently to inspire them to plunge into another blood bath.

Americans at home are angry and hurt, but divided on the Korean issue. Most of them think that the whole "mess" is due to bungling by their foreign policy-makers. They do not look upon the Korean issue the same way they did when Pearl Harbor was attacked. After all, American soldiers are fighting thousands of miles from home in a foreign land of "goobies".

Only last week Admiral Kirk, American ambassador to Moscow, reported at Frankfurt, Germany, on his way to Washington that there were no signs of aggression to be detected in the Soviet Union. Neither was any military concentration to be observed in Eastern Germany.

The Soviet Union and her satellites are so far ahead of Western European military preparedness that she need not react to the frantic attempts to set up a few more divisions in Europe. Mr. Truman's declaration of national emergency is, as a C.B.C. commentator put it, changing the American arms program into "second gear".

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#### SEASON'S GREETINGS

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stand the nature of the social conflict in Asia, America has been maneuvered into a difficult position. I think she has walked into a trap set by Cominform policy-makers. It creates an explosive international situation, but it does not create conditions that threaten the world with a global conflict. There will be little to be merry about this Christmas of 1950. Too many of our fellow human beings are suffering untold privations. We should do well to remember that after 2,000 years of chanting Christmas carols, we have a long way to go before Peace on Earth becomes a reality.

And to all the readers of this column my sincere wishes for a prosperous New Year.

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FROM

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## CHRISTMAS, 1950

THE YEAR which is coming to a close has seen further demonstration of the fact that human beings have shown themselves capable of accomplishing everything but the art of living together in peace. It is not a pleasant thought for the celebration of the season of "Peace and Good Will."

But while there is much to disturb and distress everyone as we look out over the world at this Christmas time, it is the wish of the *People's Weekly* that its readers and their families may enjoy the holiday season and be happy in the love and good will of their family circles. It is easy enough to be anxious and depressed as we read the newspaper headlines. But it will do us all good to shut out the world for a little while and be enfolded in the warmth of the mutual friendliness that is characteristic of Christmas and in keeping with its spirit.

So we wish you all a Happy Christmas.

## CURBS DEMANDED

THE United States is moving towards some form of price controls. It is altogether likely that Canada will be forced to follow or face the alternative of widespread labor disturbance. The manner in which the increased cost of living has eaten up the wage gains made since 1946 is already causing discontent and uneasiness.

With a price freeze in prospect every branch of Canadian big business is increasing prices of manufactured goods. Profits are now at an all time high, but the owners of the means by which the people of Canada live are reacting out for more before the curb becomes effective.

This maneuver must not be allowed to be successful. There must be some form of a tribunal which thoroughly investigate production costs and set back prices to allow not more than a reasonable profit. Profits now being made by the corporations which control important commodities are not reasonable. They are excessive.

Every important organization of the people of Canada is demanding price control, the labor movement, farm organizations, women's groups. The Gallup poll has shown 75 per cent of the people to be in favor of curbing the profiteers. The government should act now.

## HELP APPRECIATED

THERE IS something very encouraging about the efforts that are being made by C.C.F. groups to keep the *People's Weekly* from running into any further deficits, which would mean its extinction. This activity is reminiscent of the early days of the paper under its present name when many well-wishers paid their subscriptions for many years in advance to get the paper on its feet.

It has been recognized from the beginning that the *People's Weekly* has played an important if not vital part in maintaining the C.C.F. organization in Alberta. It has also been recognized as a paper well worth its subscription price because it gave to its readers information and a point of view not obtainable in any other publication.

We sincerely hope that many other groups and individuals may follow the example of the Lindale and Camrose groups in making substantial donations to the paper's sustaining fund.

## WEAKNESS THE DANGER

IT IS WILFUL nonsense to say that in planning a defense force for Europe the Western Powers are promoting or provoking aggression. It would have been just as silly to say that Great Britain was planning aggression when she began belatedly and insufficiently to prepare the defense that saved her in the Battle of Britain.

Britain is not entering now into the European defense program without believing to the point of certainty that there is the same danger from Soviet imperialism today as there was from the Nazi "living room" drive in the thirties.

Members of the British government are in a position to know what is going on, on both sides of the curtain. They are not aggressors. They are realists who know that weakness will invite war, as it did in the thirties.

## Little Accom-

(Continued from page 1)  
direct sales tax.

## No Action Taken

The conference adjourned on the understanding that these proposals would be studied, while the Justice Department would try its hand at writing two amendments to the B.N.A. Act which have to please everyone including Mr. Duplessis. But no action was taken.

The federal government has finally denied all responsibility for proceeding with the economic and social security plans it put forward in 1945. There will be no timed investment program to promote full employment. There will be no health insurance. There will be no agreement on unemployment relief to plug the gaps in unemployment insurance.

There will be no improvement in old age pensions unless two important conditions are fulfilled. One is that every single province will have to agree on the wording of a constitutional amendment taking jurisdiction away from the provinces. This condition was laid down by Prime Minister St. Laurent in his opening remarks. The second obstacle is the emerging fact that certain of the provinces will be faced with the alternatives of spending a lot more money than they have been spending on old age pensions or else instituting a new means test to replace the federal one.

## Tough on Provinces

The federal government's proposal is a contributory pension of \$40 to everyone, rich and poor alike, at age 65 and to nearly twice as much at ages 65-69 inclusive. The federal government would pay the whole of the cost of the \$40 for those over 70 and 50 per cent of the cost of the 65-69 pension. But several provinces, including Saskatchewan, take the position that a bare pension of \$40 to those who have no other income is wholly inadequate. They now make supplementary payments of varying amounts and provide health services to old age pensioners.

If the new scheme is adopted, will they make these available to all those over 70 regardless of means, and to the new group of pensioners between 65-69? If so, the increased cost of these supplements to the provinces will strain financial resources to the breaking point. If not, the provinces would have to limit the supplements to only those who aged them in other words, a discriminatory means test. The C.C.F.'s (and Saskatchewan's) position, is that the federal government should bear the whole cost of a \$60 pension at 65 without any means test.

It is significant that the provinces which are now placed in this most difficult position by the Ottawa proposals are those which have done most to relieve hardships for old age pensioners in recent years. This is the result of a new reactionary policy on the part of the Liberal government at Ottawa. Rather than repeat its proposals of 1945 it has offered the provinces an unfair deal which is a distinctly backward step in Canadian history.

Even the fiscal agreements which Ottawa now proposes are backward and reactionary. The old agreements were based on two alternative plans. The only significant change is the addition of a third alternative to try to entice

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## FOOTPRINTS

By J. P. GRIFFIN

"I am come that they might have life, and have it to the full."

WE READ that the Conservatives of Manitoba are planning to drop the "Progressive" label from the party's name. This will no doubt please the Ontario paper which urged the party to cut out "this apeing (of) other political parties in their socialistic tendencies of bonuses, subsidies and other so called sugar-coated securities."

History shows that there are few, if any, increases in the comforts of civilized society which have not been called "socialistic" or its equivalent, by the dead-heads of the day in which they were first introduced.

In 1850 the New York State Legislature repealed an act which had only been passed a few months previously. It was a law providing for free schools. This repeal was hailed by the press as an "escape" from the downward course of "state monopoly, state despotism, and state socialism" to "which recent legislative movements have been hurrying us."

In 1880 Judge Barrett of the New York Court of Appeals handed down a decision saying that at this time when the rights of property and the liberty of citizens are sought to be invaded by every form of subtle and dangerous legislation, the Court should see to it that those benign principles of the common law which are the shield of personal liberty and private property, suffer no impairment.

And what was the law which terrified the "timid" judge? That landlords should be required to furnish running water on each floor of their tenement buildings.

Again, the problem of sewage

disposal—not a nice subject, but an important one—has long confronted society. In 1848 a survey was made of sanitary conditions in the City of London following an outbreak of cholera. This showed that many houses were without drains, and that those which had them also had overflowing cesspools beneath them. It was further reported that 56 such cesspools had been discovered under Windsor Castle. But it was not until 1859 that a sewage system was established under the direction of a competent engineer, and even then an Act of Parliament had to be passed to make the landlords use it.

Twenty-one years later in the New World, in Philadelphia, the Health authorities ordered the owners of certain slum dwellings to replace the foul privies then in use with modern facilities. This order from the health authorities was overruled, following an appeal to the State Supreme Court by the owners. In the following decision "the cause of the nuisance was not the privy well itself, but its contents. When the well was cleaned and purified the cause of the nuisance was removed." The order requiring the owners to put in water-closets, if sustained by this Court, might be far-reaching in its consequences and lead to serious obnoxious abuses.

There is, however, one cheering thought. In obedience to the unchanging laws of nature something happens to those who stubbornly sit down before the marching feet of men. They finally die.

We may be glad of that.

## TIMELY TOPICS

By William Irvine  
Director of C.C.F. Organization

## OUR WAY OF LIFE

What happened on Wall Street December 16th was of far greater import to America than that which was happening in Korea. On December 15th President Truman proclaimed a state of emergency because the nation was in "grave danger."

He also called for the expenditure of 17 billion dollars to speed up military plans. Wall Street's reaction to the national danger was evidence that the American way of life is so-called, which its spokesmen appear to be so anxious to defend, is the most dangerous thing of all to the American people.

No sooner was it announced by the President that the nation was in danger, that a great emergency existed, than the stock market indicated its readiness to take a profit from the American people which will eventually equal the emergency expenditures said to be necessary to meet the danger.

Truman's speech boosts stocks. The stock market moved up sharply Saturday in response to the national rearmament program outlined by President Truman Friday night. War-baby issues were heavy favorites and gains extended to \$4.00 a share.

It was stated that the scramble was so great to get in on the stocks of industries required in meeting the national danger that the ticker tape could not record it fast enough.

Thus, the declared national danger, which should have stirred the nation to prepare to make great sacrifices such as the marines and the army are now making in Korea, was hailed by Wall Street only as an opportunity for profit-making.

There can be no doubt that the big monopolies will produce bombs and guns as long as high profits can be made by doing so. Avarice is capitalism's ace-in-the-hole for stimulating the initiative of those who will do nothing without profit. But the avarice of Wall Street could hardly be expected to fire the souls of the millions

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## Timely Topics

(Continued from Page 4)

who may have to do the fighting and dying to save the nation from its danger. Will a four dollar a share boost on the stock exchange provide the inspiration required by the fighting forces?

When those who control the means by which a nation defends itself, hail a national danger as an opportunity for self-aggrandizement, that is the greatest

danger of all. And that is not Russian propaganda; that is the plain bald story of what Capitalism is doing as told by the press which supports it. That story is told without a sense of either shame or danger, because that is capitalism which is so far from being ashamed of its major weakness is proud of it, boasts of it, and lives by it.

But that weakness is the real danger. If Canada or America are ever conquered by the enemies which appear to be stalking us, it will be because the incentive required by capitalists to make them produce the accoutrements of war is such as to quench in our fighting forces that spirit which alone can make for victory.

## New Books and Pamphlets

The Literature Committee of the C.C.F. reminds readers that a number of new booklets and pamphlets are being added to those already on hand.

**Facts About C.C.F. Government in Saskatchewan** (Price 10 cents) gives a most interesting picture of increased benefits obtained by the people through the C.C.F. Here, for 10 cents, are the facts and figures which every C.C.F.-er should have.

**Wanted: Vital Religion in Politics** (Price 5 cents) is a handy pocket-size little booklet by Dr. J. L. Donaldson which, to quote F. F. Moriarty, 25 years secretary of the Y.M.C.A., "is most insistent in showing that Christian principles, when applied, contain the only sound basis for an economic system." Dr. Donaldson's contribution for the pamphlet is "C.C.F. Principles Agree With Christian Ideals."

**Who Owns Canada?** If you don't already own a copy of this reliable examination of the facts concerning the concentration of control and ownership of the wealth of Canada, send for one now. Price 50 cents.

**European Unity** (15c) — A new pamphlet which gives the British Labor Party's views on methods by which European unity should be pursued.

**Planning For Freedom** (Reduced from \$1.25 to 50c) — Though written in 1944, the first section of this book discusses issues of vital importance today. Excellent club material.

**They'll Ask You** (5c) — A primer of C.C.F. questions and answers.

**Who Benefits From Soaring Prices?** (40 for 30c or 3 for 10c)

An attractively arranged and easily read leaflet, showing just what the soaring cost of living is doing to farmer, labor, soldier, old folks and hence—and what it has done to increase monopoly profits. Send for a number of these and pass them on to your neighbors.

**Comment**—The new C.C.F. up-to-the-minute facts and figures magazine. \$1.00 buys a year's subscription; single copies 10c each. This month's issue, which includes the story of the oil grab, is one you won't want to miss.

(1) **Fifty Years' March**—Francis Williams, \$2.00.

This is the book, recently reviewed in the P.W. by Elmer E. Roper, which tells of the rise and growth of the British Labor Party. An A1 gift for an intelligent friend!

(2) **Guide to Elementary Socialism**—G. D. H. Cole, 15c.

(3) **I Chose Peace**—Zellianus, 35c.

(4) **The Road Ahead**—Laidler, \$1.00.

A nicely bound, easily read and understood story of the democratic socialist way of life.

(5) **The Case for Socialism**—Fred Henderson, 35c.

## NEW CCYM LOCAL IS FORMED AT RED DEER

A C.C.Y.M. Red Deer was formed at Red Deer on December 7. The officers are: president, Merla Pye, Penhold, and secretary, Miss LaVona Grimsen, of Red Deer. Miss Margaret Walter, C.C.Y.M. provincial organizer, was in attendance.

## Little Accom-

(Continued from page 4)

the wealthy central provinces to enter the agreement.

To Them That Hath

The third alternative will, as Mr. St. Laurent said, give "more weight to the factor of tax potential." The potential is "what the provinces could raise without an agreement. Thus the provinces of Ontario and Quebec (where most of the revenue-producing corporations have their headquarters) will have much larger sums offered them while the poorer provinces must be content with what they have."

Instead of redistributing income from rich to poor, the new proposal will do the reverse, by eliminating some of the redistribution which resulted from the sum total of the old agreements. The balance will be shifted in favor of the richer provinces.

**Adjourning Indefinitely**—The conference has been adjourned indefinitely. No action can result until agreement is reached and the new conservatism of the Ottawa government makes the date of such agreement seem distant indeed. Finally, when agreement is reached, the people of Canada may receive no more than crumbs from the table.

## LIVING STANDARD HAS DROPPED 7%

OTTAWA (CPA)—The Canadian Chamber of Commerce publishes a monthly propaganda sheet under the disarming title "News Letter." The December issue makes bold to suggest that figures produced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics "show definitely that despite the claims of the demagogues, the Canadian people are living better now than they even have before."

What are these figures? To quote the Chamber they are that "the cost of living index between the years 1941 and 1949 showed an increase of 44 per cent," and "personal expenditures on consumer goods and services rose some 118 per cent." These figures are accurate in themselves, but they are only part of the story.

**Drops 7 Per Cent**—Personal expenditure on consumer goods and services stood at \$10,956 million in 1949. This compares with \$9,226 million in

\$75 for P.W.

## CAMROSE WOMEN DO THEIR SHARE

Whenever and wherever the C.C.F. in Alberta needs help, and encouraging support, the Camrose C.C.F. Women's Club can be depended upon to do its share, and more.

The Club's official delegate to the November provincial convention was Mrs. A. Weiss. Mrs. Weiss wasn't content to come to the convention and hear reports and speeches. She was deeply concerned about the problems presented to the delegates.

She went home to do something about it.

The result was that the Camrose women again rose to the occasion and have sent a cheque for \$75.00 to the People's Weekly sustaining fund.

Following upon the similar splendid action by the Lindale C.C.F. Club as reported in the last issue, this fine move by the Camrose C.C.F. women will no doubt inspire other groups to "go that and do likewise."

## INDUSTRIAL PAY IS HIGHEST IN B.C.

OTTAWA (CPA)—British Columbia industrial workers are the highest paid in this field in Canada. New Brunswick workers are the lowest paid in the eight provinces which have manufacturing industries. Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are the two provinces not included.

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, average hourly earnings for the hourly rated workers at September 1 this year, ranged from the Pacific province's high of \$1.25 to the New Brunswick low of 91.1 cents. Ontario's average was \$1.16, Saskatchewan \$1.04, Alberta \$1.02, Manitoba 99 cents, Quebec 93 cents and Nova Scotia with 91.5 cents. These averages included overtime pay and bonuses where applicable.

**Windsor Heads List**—By cities, Windsor, headed the list with \$1.33, followed by Vancouver with \$1.25 an hour. Hamilton averaged \$1.23, Toronto \$1.08, Montreal and Winnipeg 98 cents.

The national average was \$1.04, a rise of six cents above the 98 cent level a year ago. Average weekly earnings also increased heavily \$2—from \$41.72 a year ago to \$43.74.

1947. But our population is growing. On a per capita basis the figures are \$809 in 1949 and \$733 in 1947.

If these per capita figures are reduced by the cost of living index to 1935-39 values, we get a result which shows \$503 in 1949 and \$541 in 1947. Thus our standard of living has dropped 7 per cent in two years. As a matter of fact the per capita personal expenditure on consumer goods and services expressed in real terms was lower in 1949 than in any year since 1945. The figures are as follows:

1945	\$487
1946	527
1947	541
1948	508
1949	503

Our standard of living went up during the war, but it has fallen since.

## "Friends Of People's Weekly"

Woodsword House, 10140 - 107 Street, Edmonton.

I hereby apply for membership in the "Friends of the People's Weekly Club" and in doing so, pledge that I will

- Undertake to contribute an amount not less than 50 cents per month; or—
- Secure four new subscribers to the People's Weekly at \$2.00 per year.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Sign this and return to the above address)

## UNEMPLOYMENT UP ACROSS DOMINION

OTTAWA (CPA)—The Department of Labour's latest figures on unemployment indicate an increase of jobless amounting to 10,400 during the two weeks from October 19 to November 2. This increase brought Canada's total unemployed to 147,000. The Labour Department attributes the increase in unemployment to seasonal layoffs in lumbering, fishing, agriculture and tourist industries.

**Highest at Coast**—The biggest regional increase in unemployment occurred at the

Pacific coast, where 2,900 were laid off in Vancouver, New Westminster, Victoria and Prince George, bringing the Pacific region's total unemployed to 22,400.

In the prairie region unemployment is up by 2,800, making a total of 20,600 at November 2. The Ontario jobless number 38,300; an increase of 1,900; the Quebec total is 45,400, an increase of 2,300; the Maritimes unemployed number 17,000, an increase of 318.

The total Canadian jobless figure of 147,000 is 25,400 below the national total for November 3 a year ago.

## A Healthy, Happy Toast to All MERRY CHRISTMAS



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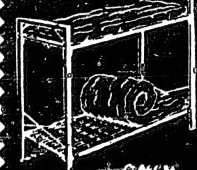
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## FURTHER DECLINE IN FARM PRICES

OTTAWA (CPA)—There was a further decline in overall farm prices of agricultural products in October, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The Bureau's index number, on the base of 1935-39 equals 100, fell to 239.5 in October from 247.3 in September. The index number for October a year ago was 248.8. This year's October index was at its lowest level since December, 1947.

The decline is attributed to a further lowering of average grain prices in the prairie provinces, and to a decline in livestock and potato prices. Slightly higher prices for dairy products, poultry and eggs, did not greatly offset the overall decline.

## Ont. Compensation REPORT SUGGESTS FURTHER BENEFITS

OTTAWA (CPA)—The report of the Royal Commission on the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Act, made public a few days ago, will greatly aid the C.C.F. case for an improved act in this province.

Mr. Justice Roach, chairman of the Commission, recommended that the maximum of earnings on which compensation may be based should be increased from the present \$3,000 to \$4,000. The C.C.F. Opposition has been pressing for an increase at least up to \$3,600. The present \$3,000 level was reached in Ontario only at the beginning of this year, and Saskatchewan is the only other province in Canada where the compensable earning limit is that high.

The chairman's recommendation in this respect will particularly affect skilled workers, although others will benefit as well. Mr. Justice Roach said that \$3,000 today does not represent the annual earnings of the highest paid workmen.

The full compensation rates in Ontario is 75 per cent of annual earnings.

### Reduce Waiting Period

The second major recommendation of the report was that the waiting period should be reduced from the present seven days to four days. The report also recommended that the Compensation Act be extended to cover voluntary firefighters and persons assisting police officers during arrests or in keeping the peace.

In case of accidental death, the report recommended that the funeral benefit be increased from the present \$125 to \$200, and where the body must be shipped any distance for burial, that the special allowance of \$125 be increased to \$175.

The Commission recommended also full compensation, instead of 50 per cent compensation as at present, to be paid in a case where a workman suffers an injury which is aggravated by a pre-existing physical condition. All workmen, the Chairman said, are entitled to full protection of the act without discrimination based on their physical condition.

Jane: "My Scotch boy friend sent me his picture yesterday."

Joan: "How does he look?"

Jane: "I don't know yet. I haven't had it developed."

A doctor went hunting and came home complaining that he hadn't killed anything.

"That's what you get," said his wife, "for neglecting your practice."



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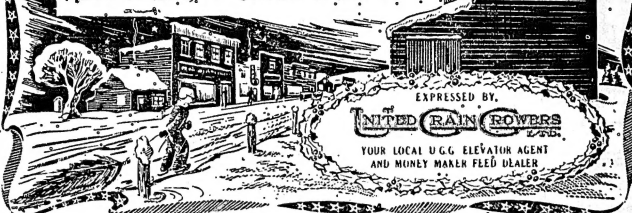
*I heard the bells on Christmas Day,  
Their old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men.*

No one can fail to realize the importance of these words as we approach the end of 1950.

Let us make the Christmas-New Year season a time of re-dedication, more than one of festivities.

Let us pledge our New Year's wishes to this end so that 1951 may truly be a year of

Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men



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